A method and apparatus for driving lasers. An example

laser driving system includes a laser current controller for

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providing a modulation signal and a bias signal. 5 modulation signal and bias signal is used by a plurality of high-speed current drivers that accept the modulation signal and the bias signal and produce a plurality of laser drive The example system also has a disable input that disconnects power from a high-speed current driver when the 10 high-speed current driver is not in use. The exemplary system develops the modulation and bias signals by feeding back a signal developed from detection of laser light from one of the lasers driven by the system. The laser may be a data laser or a control laser that is modulated by a signal having a lower 15 frequency than the data lasers. If a control laser is used then the photodetector circuit used for feedback can have a lower frequency response because of the lower frequency of the control laser signal. The photodetector system may also employ a peak detector capacitor discharge circuit where a 20 large capacitance is simulated by having the capacitor discharge through the base of a transistor have a current

source in the emitter circuit.

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